



OUR AWESOME KIDS

We LOVE to show off about the achievements of our children! If your child has received an award or achieved something through their sporting or special interest club, please tell us so we can include their name in the newsletter and announce their achievement publicly at our assembly.

SPECIAL AWARD – This week William Titchener of Room 12 was awarded with a Riverhead School Citizenship Award – our very first for the year! This award is given to any child who has an awesome attitude, shows respect and manners, is caring for others and the environment, does random acts of kindness or is just consistently ‘doing the right thing’. Well done William.....keep up that great attitude!

April Willcox - Horseriding

Maddy Brajkovich - !s, 2nd, 3rd & 4th placings at the Auckland Intermediate School Equestrian Day

Casey Trott – Champion rider – Rosedale Equestrian Ribbon Day, Champion rider Wainui Equestrian Ribbon Day, Reserve Champion Waimauku Equestrian Ribbon Day

Zarlia Martin – Equestrian awards

Michaela Thornton – Project Aware – Sea Walk Beach & Underwater Champ

Madison Thornton – Project Aware – Sea Walk Beach & Underwater Champ

Sarah Paterson – Nationals of the Surf Life Saving Champs

Renee Paterson – Selected for the under 9’s Girls Rep team – Norwest Soccer

Amber Donaldson – Riverhead Athletics – 1st Discus, 2nd High jump, 3rd 50m & 100m sprint, 1st 200m sprint

Gian Krauer - Athletics – 1st High jump, 2nd 100m sprint, 3rd Shot put

Kamryn Harrison – Athletics – 2nd Long Jump, 3rd Shot put, 2nd 100 & 200m sprint, 2nd 50m sprint

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RIVERHEAD SCOUTS AGM....PLUS FREE WATER SLIDE!!

Free Waterslides & Sausages Sizzle at the Murray Jones Reserve, Newton Road, Riverhead on Saturday 7th March from 2:00 p.m for children of parents or caregivers attending the Annual General Meeting of the Riverhead Scouts. Please note, all children **must** be accompanied by an adult.

WEETBIX TRYATHLON

Congratulations to all those students who competed in the Devonport Tryathlon on 15th February! This event was held earlier this year so many students may have missed out on competing. There was a second event planned for 29th March in St Heliers but unfortunately this is now full and registrations are closed. If you are lucky enough to **have** registered already and would like some support in the way of a training programme, nutritional tips and equipment checklists, please pass your name onto the school office and we will ensure you receive these as soon as possible.

Huapai-Kumeu Lions' Book Fair

If you have unwanted books, CDs, DVDs, video tapes or records you wish to donate please drop them off to either Huapai Hardware, Shamrock Drive, Kumeu or Sunnyview orchards, 667 State Hwy, Huapai. The book fair will be held on Saturday 28th March 9:00 am – 3:00 p.m. at the Kumeu Community Centre, Access Road, Kumeu. All money raised at the annual Book Fair goes towards supporting local community projects.

WAITAKERE CITY WATER POLO HIGH PERFORMANCE ACADEMY 7 – 8 March

Calling all Flippa Ball players and experienced swimmers Years 6, 7 and 8. Learn all about the game rules & strategy, group and team skills, game play, nutrition and much more with experienced players, coaches & referees. Where: West Wave Aquatic centre, Henderson Saturday 9am – 6pm & Sunday 10am – 4pm. Cost \$80 for the weekend. Call Alison Armstrong on 416 1950 or Tania Bailey on 816 8660 for further information.

RIVERHEAD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

A very warm Riverhead School welcome to **Amber and Rebekah** and their families who have joined our school community! Our school roll now stands at 264. Amber and Rebekah are the first two students in our brand new class – Room 8. We welcome our new teacher, Leonie Atkinson to Riverhead School and assure you that your lovely little class of two won't be for long!

HIGH SCHOOL FEEDBACK

WOW.... We are very happy to share (but not surprised) that it has been reported back to us that out of 16 of our 2008 Year 8 students, one student was placed in an accelerant class and one in the gifted and talented class. All of the 16 are at or above their expected levels and motivated to learn, settled in well and portraying the right attitude This reinforces that Riverhead School students are well prepared for when they enter high school. We are extremely proud of them and look forward to hearing more of their achievements.

F.O.R.C.E



Thank you to those of you who attended our F.O.R.C.E meeting on Tuesday night. We had a fantastic turnout of very proactive parents all with great ideas and plans for lots of exciting events, the first of which is being organised by our newly formed “Social Group”. They will be holding a Family picnic on

Friday 13th March at the school from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. so pack up your picnic basket full of goodies and head along for an enjoyable afternoon mixing with other parents and some of the staff. What a great way to get to know other people in the community....especially if you are new to the area or a new parent of the school. Hope to see you there!

SWIMMING SPORTS

Unfortunately due to the blustorous weather today, the Junior Swimming Sports was cancelled. We will have Year 3 & 4 swimming next Wednesday 11 March at 1 pm. Any helpers would be much appreciated – please let the office know if you are able to help out.

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR WEEKLY SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSEMBLIES

Full school assemblies will take place every week on a Wednesday morning (at around 8.30am just after roll call), and this assembly is open to the community to attend. We warmly invite parents and caregivers to stay on after dropping your children off at school and join at assembly where we will celebrate the week's successes, talk about current school events and showcase our talented students (who absolutely love it when mum or dad or nana or granddad are sitting in the background)! Preschoolers are most welcome but we do ask that you take them out if they decide to have a tanty (it means we lose the attention of 264



students until the tantrum has finished)! So come along and join us and make our Tuesday assemblies a regular part of your week!

ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING



Last year at our 'Future Direction Meeting', Miss Brown, Mrs Gilmore and Mrs Cook informed you as parents that we as a staff were part of a Ministry contact for 'Assessment for Learning'. The aim of this programme is to create strong learning relationships between the teacher, student and parents where the student has greater input into what they need to learn and their next steps in learning. By empowering the students we know that they will be learning what is relevant to them at their level.

The first step in this learning journey is the teachers and students defining together what learning looks like, feels like, sounds like and so building a relationship where both parties have ownership of what is happening in the classroom and how it is going to happen. Out of this first step came classroom slogans, i.e. how they want their class to be or look like. Below are the slogans created by each class through discussion:

- "Room One is cool, Room one is fun, Room 1 is where the learning gets done"
- "Yes we can... **LEARN!**"
- "We are super-doooper learning troopers"
- "We are the best class in the whole world because we are the champions, no time for losers, cause we are the champions of the world"
- "Learning is; listening, looking, thinking. Learning is turning on your brain"
- "We may party but we're still smarties"
- "We are outrageous, funky, dynamic learners"
- "No learning is impossible"
- **R** Really
- **O** on
- **O** on board
- **M** members

WANTED!

Are you available for 1 hour, one morning a week during school time?
Do you enjoy working 1:1 with a child to support their reading?
If this sounds like you please contact Jacqui Lyttle in Room 4 or the school office.
If you have not been a parent tutor before then a 2 hour training session is available for newcomers and we will start our parent tutoring in Term 2.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS REMINDER

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE remember to let the school office know if your child is not going to be on the walking bus each day. It takes a lot of time to call roll and chase up children who do not line up for the bus each evening. The school office can be contacted on 4129105. Also, if you live outside the main village, your child is welcome to join the 'bus' and walk to the dairy (or another stop). It all helps ease congestion at the school gate (especially whilst the road work are taking place) and gives your child valuable exercise! Thank you.

PARENT VOICE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all those parents who responded to our questionnaire. It would seem that most of our parents would like to see formal 'parent / teacher interviews followed by written reports on how their children are doing at school with the most important factor being knowing how their child is progressing academically and a little further down the scale, how they interact with others and their overall behaviour.

With regards to informal communication, it would seem that parent / teacher conferences followed by notes from the teachers and weekly newsletters are the preferred means of communicating with parents.

In an age where we are trying to instil in students the need to take greater responsibility for their learning, we were pleased to see that the majority of our parents also felt that it was very important that their children engage in "student directed learning" and 'self assessment'.

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1

Please note key dates on your calendar. Details of events are in the newsletter as the dates approach.

Friday 6 th March	-	Senior School Swimming Competition – Rooms 1,2,3,4,5
Monday 9 th March	-	Hearing & Vision Testing
Tuesday 10 th March	-	Confident Kids - Constable Dave
Wednesday 11 th March	-	Confident Kids - Constable Dave
Sunday 15 th March	-	Soap Box Derby
Tuesday 17 th March	-	Years 1 – 4 Stepping Out (pedestrian license)
Friday 20 th March	-	NW Zone Swimming Competition
Tuesday 24 th March	-	Year 1 – 4 Stepping out programme
Sunday 29 th March	-	Daylight saving ends
Tuesday 31 st March	-	Years 1 – 4 Stepping out programme
Thursday 9 th April	-	Last day of Term 1
Friday 10 th April	-	Good Friday

SOAP BOX DERBY SPONSORSHIP

Yay! Thanks to the kindness of Rob Anderson of Metro Roofing we now have a sponsor for our Soap Box Derby. Rob is an ex parent of the school and we thank him for his very generous donation. We are currently going through a selection process for our drivers and parents will be notified when they have been selected. The Derby will once again be held at Westgate (behind Placemakers). So mark Sunday 15th March on your calendar and come along and support your school. It is a fantastic day out with lots of fun and community involvement for everyone.



THE BOOK WORM

Every time you purchase books with Wheelers online our school benefits! Wheelers Bookworm is now online which means that you can order discounted books throughout the year from Wheelers quality range of Children's and Adults titles (over 1.4 million). Simply visit www.wheelers.co.nz and click on *The Bookworm* to get you started. Wheelers will send the books directly to you at home. All friends and family of our school qualify for the Bookworm so visit wheelers.co.nz today! **PLUS**....place your order before 31st March to receive 30% off a title of your choice. Simply enter the code BW256 at checkout.

